



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HUNTSVILLE DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 1600  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35807-4301

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, *Rich* U.S. Army Engineer District,  
Huntington, ATTN: CEORH (Colonel Richard W.  
Jemiola), 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, WV  
25701-2070

SUBJECT: Ordnance Removal Action, Dolly Sods Wilderness Area, WV

1. References:

- a. Your letter, 9 October 1996, regarding the above subject (encl 1).
- b. Memorandum, CEHNC-OE-EM-A, 7 October 1996, subject: Dolly Sods Schedule (encl 2).
- c. Letter, U.S. Forest Service, 12 September 1996 (encl 3).

2. Field operations in the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area are not scheduled until April or May of 1997. Removal operations cannot begin until the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB) has reviewed and given written approval of the Safety Submission. This Safety Submission is part of the contractor's work plan package. Our plan is to complete the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area and the additional area called Dolly Sods North next summer.

3. The contractor has received the collective comments on his draft work plan and is making changes to that work plan. He will then resubmit the work plan for review. Once the work plan and safety submission are acceptable, then the safety submission will be forwarded for approval. The following organizations are required to approve the safety submission: The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville (USAESCH); Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Safety Office (CESO); Department of the Army Safety Office (DACS-SF); and the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB). The approval time for the safety submission could take up to three (3) months. It will be our responsibility for tracking the progress of the safety submission.

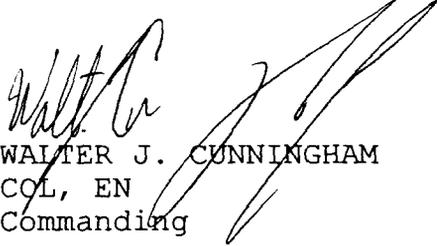
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SUBJECT: Ordnance Removal Action, Dolly Sods Wilderness Area, WV

4. If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to call me at 205-895-1300 or the Project Manager, Mr. Bill Sargent at 205-895-1562.

3 Encls

  
WALTER J. CUNNINGHAM  
COL, EN  
Commanding

*Rich,  
let me know  
if there are any problems  
with this.  
John*



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HUNTINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
502 EIGHTH STREET  
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701-2070

OCT 09 1996

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Programs and Project  
Management Division

Colonel Walter Cunningham  
Commander  
US Army Engineering and Support Center  
P.O. Box 1600  
Huntsville, AL 35807-4301

Dear Colonel Cunningham:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter we received from the U.S. Forest Service dated September 12, 1996 expressing their concern with continued delays in executing the Dolly Sods removal action. This letter was faxed to the Huntsville Center on September 16, 1996 but no response has been received. The Huntington District shares the concerns of the Forest Service. We have worked hard to develop a good partnership and continued delays jeopardize the trust we have with the Forest Service, and reflect negatively on the Corps of Engineers.

The project site is located in the north eastern portion of West Virginia and is subject to early adverse weather conditions. Therefore, each day that passes is critical to the execution of this project. The Forest Service has agreed that they would be satisfied if we at least get the Red Creek Trail cleared this year. The Corps and the U.S. Forest Service can't afford to fail to complete this action.

I trust you will give this matter your immediate attention and I look forward to hearing from you. It is vital for the Corps to continue building its partnership with the Forest Service and to honor commitments with our customers.

If you have any questions on this project, please call me or the Project Manager, Rick Meadows at (304) 529-5388.

Sincerely,

*For*  *Major*  
Richard W. Jemiola  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer

Encl

Sargent/LR/1598/dollyschedule

7 October 1996  
30 September 1996

CEHNC-OE-EM-A (200-1c)

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Huntington  
ATTN: CEORH-DL-M (Mr. Richard Meadows), 502 8th  
Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

SUBJECT: Dolly Sods Schedule

1. Reference Contract DACA87-94-D-0019, Task Order 0020, Ordnance Removal Action, Former West Virginia Maneuver Area, Dolly Sods Wilderness, West Virginia, and the United States Department of Agriculture/Forest Service letter dated 12 Sep 96, faxed to us from your office.
2. During the week of 12 Aug 96, a contractor's site visit was conducted for the reference area. On 13 Aug, a meeting was held for all concerned parties at the Forest Service Headquarters in Elkins to discuss issues and to inform everyone on how the project would proceed.
3. Based on the letter referenced above, it is obvious that Ms. Feakes came away from this meeting with the impression that field work would begin during the month of September. During the meeting, it was made very clear that once the contractor finished the site visit, he would prepare draft Work Plans for review by all parties. These draft Plans were received in mid-September and are currently under review. After all comments are received, the contractor will make corrections and resubmit. If that submission is acceptable, then the Work Plan will be forwarded through the appropriate channels to the Department of Defense Explosive Safety Board (DDESB), who could possibly take two weeks to three months for approval. We can not begin work until we have approval from DDESB. This was all explained during the meeting and everyone present indicated they understood.
4. We understand the needs of the Forest Service, and we have agreed to prosecute all actions required to try to get to the field this season. Again, this was all explained and laid out, along with the fact that the DDESB or the weather would probably decide whether we started this season or not. Everyone agreed that this was the approach to take. It was noted by the Forest Service that they were happy to have the work under contract, and as long as the effort was going forward, they would not be upset if work started next Spring. We stated that we would push forward until we either started field work or something not under our control stopped us.

CEHNC-OE-EM-A (200-1c)  
SUBJECT: Dolly Sods Schedule

*7 October 1996*  
30 September 1996

5. We understand that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) is concerned about the area called Dolly Sods North. This area is currently not part of this project; however, efforts are underway to amend the Action Memorandum so that we can pursue this next year as a modification to the current Task Order with HFA. This action will shorten the project schedule on Dolly Sods North by about one year. The Forest Service appears excited about this course of action.

6. Questions regarding this matter should be directed to Mr. Bill Sargent (Project Manager, Huntsville) at 205-895-1562 or facsimile 205-895-1819.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*Wayne H. GALLOWAY*  
*Acting Director, Ordnance and Explosives Team*  
C. DAVID DOUTHAT, P.E., CSP  
Director, Ordnance and  
Explosives Team

Encl

CF:  
OE-EM-A Sargent/Read  
OE Read  
ED File  
OE BAT Read  
CT-S Prince  
ED Read

CONCURRENCE:  
*HA* Galloway

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Monongahela  
National  
Forest

Potomac Ranger District  
HC 59, Box 240  
Petersburg, WV 26847  
VOICE and TTY 304-257-4488  
FAX 304-257-2482

"CARING FOR THE LAND AND SERVING PEOPLE"

Reply to: 2320/6740

Date: September 12, 1996

Mr. Rick Meadows  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
502 Eighth Street  
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

RECEIVED  
16 Sept 96

Dear Rick:

It has been almost a month since our meeting in Elkins between the Forest Service, the Corps of Engineers and HFA, discussing the start-up of the contract for removal of UXO in the Dolly Sods Wilderness. I am concerned about the delay in the start-up of this contract; my understanding at the meeting was that HFA would start work early this month.

As you are probably aware, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) has raised the sensitivity of all levels of the Forest Service to the UXO safety issue in the Dolly Sods area in the past year. As a result of their inquiry, officials at our Regional Office and Washington Office levels as well as on the Monongahela National Forest are extremely concerned about the safety of the publics and employees who use this area. We worked hard during the inquiry to convince OIG and others that the COE and their contractors would be able to start and complete the removal on schedule. Continued delays are jeopardizing the trust we have been able to build with our publics, OIG, and our counterparts at other levels of the Forest Service relative to our ability to successfully deal with this issue.

From the Forest Service viewpoint it is imperative that work on this contract begin this month. We would like for HFA to start their on-the-ground removal of UXO as soon as possible.

We have removed the blowdown and begun repair of the road damage that Hurricane Fran brought to us last weekend, and all roads to the Dolly Sods area are again open. We stand ready to work with you and HFA to complete this UXO removal action as swiftly as it can reasonably be done. Please send us your newest time line right away so that we can adjust our schedules to work with you.

If you have any questions or want to discuss the schedule, please call me.

Sincerely,

*Nancy Feakes*

NANCY FEAKES  
District Ranger

Encl 3